

Adult Literacy Contact Centre



1-800-663-1293
1-604-684-0624

The ALCC is a project of the
Adult Basic Education Association

Vol. 2, No. 5
June 1989

news...

Funding – in B.C.

On May 8th the Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training and the Secretary of State announced a \$60,000 federal/provincial cost sharing arrangement to support research being undertaken by the B.C. Provincial Literacy Advisory Committee. The money will be used to identify ways to increase public awareness of illiteracy and for research into the problem. For more information contact: Secretary of State - Les Westerberg (819) 994-5602 or Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training - Michelle Poirier (604) 387-3174.

Funding – outside B.C.

New Brunswick's provincial government has announced that \$1,150,000 will be allocated for the advancement of literacy in New Brunswick. For more information contact Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training, New Brunswick - Byron James (506) 453-8202.

The Collège Communautaire de Bathurst, NB is receiving a \$181,600 grant from the Secretary of State to undertake an experimental literacy pilot project among francophone workers in the forestry and fishing industries. This program, one of several being funded as part of a joint federal/provincial initiative, will provide francophone workers in the forestry and fishing industries with an opportunity to learn through computers, the latest development in these industries. For more information contact: Secretary of State - Les Westerberg (819) 994-5602 or Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training, New Brunswick - Byron James (506) 453-8202.

The Collège Communautaire de Dieppe, NB is receiving \$152,000 from the Secretary of State as part of joint federal/provincial initiatives. This funding will go towards the development of French teaching materials and to reassess provincial literacy programs as well as experimenting with new ones. For more information contact: Les Westerberg (819) 994-5602 or Ministry of Advanced Education and Job Training, New Brunswick - Byron James (506) 453-8202.

A.L.L.O.W. – Adult Literacy Learners on the Way

A.L.L.O.W. is a group formed by mature Malaspina College students who are illiterate. Students from the literacy class have formed this group to lobby government and to increase awareness of the functionally illiterate. The group was formed with the assistance of Malaspina College president, Rich Johnston, and instructors. The overall objective of A.L.L.O.W. is to provide opportunities for new learners to make changes in their lives and to help others in the same position. For more details call: Ken Rowley, 753-3245, local 265/496.

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#622-510 W. Hastings St.
Vancouver, BC V6B 1L8
1-800-663-1293 (toll free)
684-0624 (lower mainland)

ADULT LITERACY CONTACT CENTRE UPDATE

Nancy Jennings, coordinator of ALCC, has given notice that she is resigning for personal reasons by June 16, 1989.

Nancy has worked hard to make the centre even more of a success than it was when she became coordinator, Jan. 1989. She's been a dynamic and creative leader and the Centre and the Association has benefited from her efforts and commitment. We are sorry that she has found it necessary to resign.

What Learners told us in April

A flexible structure which recognizes the need to juggle attendance at classes with other demands such as work and family was again identified by learners as a very positive aspect of available programs.

Some learners also commented on the friendliness of instructors and volunteers that they worked with and the encouragement and willingness they received from them.

One learner in particular said the warmth and support of all the people at the program where she studies makes her feel so good that she would attend every day if she could. This learner also said that studying in a small class with others who share similar experiences in overcoming road blocks and barriers to learning was a great source of support and was helping all of them to come out of their shells and gain self-confidence.

The following were identified as barriers to learning:

1. waiting lists for literacy tutors and ESL classes.
2. lack of program options for advanced ESL learners who want to continue improving language skills.
3. lack of programs in some small towns.
4. non-availability of programs during the summer.
5. anxiety about attending classes.

6. reluctance or refusal to seek help because of embarrassment and lack of self-confidence (identified by friends or family of learner).
7. difficulty in obtaining assessment of learning disabled.
8. inability in obtaining assessment of learning disabled.
9. lack of response by program deliverers to learners request for assistance in completing administrative paper work required by immigration departments.

Summary of Initial Calls by Learners or Friends/Family of Learner in April/89.

By Community:

Van.	6	Bby.	4
N. Van.	1	N. West.	1
Surrey	1	W. Rock	1
Langley	1	Aldergrove	1
Lake Cowichan	1	Sooke	1
Keremeos	1	Vernon	1
Total-20			

By Program

Literacy	11	ESL	6
L. Disabled	4	GED	1
ABE Upgrading	2		
Total-24			

Calls were generated by PSA's for:

Learning Together Video	3
Social Agency Services	4
Colleges/School Districts	4
Telephone Book & Info	3
Friend of Learner	1
Libraries	1

Summary of initial calls by volunteers in April/89:

Van.	3	Richmond	2
Coq.	1	Surrey	1
W. Van.	1	Victoria	1
Kamloops	1	Pr. George	1
Total-11			

Calls generated by:

Learning Together	4
Social institutions & agencies	2
PSA's	1
Colleges	1
Friend	1
Libraries	1
Posters	1

We are pleased to announce that the ALCC has hired Neeta Soni, our Challenge '89 student. Neeta will be at the centre full time from June-Aug. 11. She will be assisting Cherie Layne with gathering program information for the upcoming ABE directory. Welcome, Neeta, to our team!

RESOURCES

Teachers, Tutors and Learners

In late June, KCTS/9 (Vancouver) will be launching a Summer Reading Club aimed at young readers (age 6-12). Young people join the club by setting a goal for the summer in terms of the number and kind of books they will read. The Club will be advertised through posters which we hope to distribute through libraries, Reading Circles, or other places where children might see them.

If you are interested in having a poster and entry forms for the Club, please contact Justine Bizzocchi or Dolly Rosen at KCTS, 291-5101.

*Poverty
in an age of affluence
is being
unable to write
and
having others
write about you.*

The Pathfinder Learning System is operational at the Burnaby Y.E.S. Canada site. Pathfinder incorporates self-paced, individualized, mastery learning on an IBM computer-assisted and computer-managed system. Pathfinder has learning modules in integrated reading and writing, math, science, social studies and job/life skills from a grade one to college entrance level. Pathfinder includes print, video, software and hardware and audio tape learning materials.

Anyone wishing to view it and have some hands-on experience, please contact Tanya Northcott, 435-1937.

Understanding the Law

The Department of Justice, Canada has recently published a brochure and cassette tape called "What to do if a child tells you of sexual abuse."

The brochure has been prepared for teenagers and adults who are in contact with children. It is a general guide intended to help teenagers and adults respond to child sexual abuse and understand the legal process, and provides information about Canada's child sexual abuse legislation.

For more information contact:
Communications and Public Affairs
Department of Justice, Canada
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H8
(613) 957-4222

Laying the Foundations: A Parent-Child Literacy Training Kit

This kit includes:

- guidelines on developing a parent-child reading curriculum
- teaching a nonreader to read children's books, utilizing community education resources
- supporting advocacy and parent involvement
- "Like Parent, Like Child; Read to Me" with accompanying cassette tape
- Easy to read "Learning and Reading Tips for Parents"
- "All about Me" a book that parent and child complete together.

For more details contact:

PLAN INC.
1332 G St. SE
Washington, D.C. 20003
(202) 547-8903

PROJECT LITERACY B.C.

PROJECT LITERACY... LOWER MAINLAND

Chairperson: Linda Forsythe
Phone: 438-2344, local 350

The recently formed Transition Committee has drafted a proposal of goals and membership recommendations for the Lower Mainland group. If you are interested in the proposal contact one of the following people:

Mary Carlisle 879-0834
Shirley Abrams 263-5922
Tanya Northcott 435-1937

PROJECT LITERACY... KELOWNA

President: Betty Knox
P.O. Box 1886, Station "A"
Kelowna, B.C., V1Y 8P2.
Phone: 762-2163.

Still looking for funding

53 volunteer tutor-learner pairs have been trained and matched.
Community posters are now ready.
They will be distributed in Kelowna.

PROJECT LITERACY... CHILLIWACK

Chairperson: Gail Newby (volunteer-tutor) 858-4913

More than 130 people, including learners, tutors, college personnel and many concerned community leaders participated in the Fraser Valley College-Chilliwack Learner Event on April 26.

Project Literacy Chilliwack was announced on April 26 during the second annual Learner Event at Fraser Valley College-Chilliwack. A chair has been appointed.

PROJECT LITERACY... PARKSVILLE

Contact: Linda Perkins

Phone: 248-2096
Parksville Campus - Memorial Building, 2nd Floor
Box 42, 141 Memorial Avenue
Parksville, B.C.
V0R 2S0

PROJECT LITERACY... VICTORIA

Chairperson: Linda Mitchell
Phone: 388 4721
R.E.A.D. Society
720 Linden Ave.
Victoria, B.C. V8V 4G7

PROJECT LITERACY... ABBOTSFORD

Contact: Wendy Watson
Phone: 853-7441
Fraser Valley College
33844 King Rd.
R.R.# 2
Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 4N2

PROJECT LITERACY... NANAIMO

Contact: Inger Weber
Phone: 758-2743
120 Locksley Place
Nanaimo, B.C. V9T 4S5

If you have any notices for upcoming newsletters, please send information to: the Contact Centre, c/o Cherie Layne before the last day of each month.

Next Project Literacy Lower Mainland Meeting

June 23, 9 AM

**Boardroom, Douglas College (4th floor)
8th St. and Royal Ave.**

New Westminster (End of the Skytrain)

Agenda Items:

- Important work from the Transition Committee will be presented concerning PLLM's new structure
- Guest speaker from MSSH (student funding)
- Discussion and decision on 'Walk for Literacy'
- Planning a fall event for learners, volunteers and instructors

**Adult Literacy
Contact Centre
Newsletter**

**Editor: Cherie
Layne**

**Design and Layout:
Invergarry Learning
Centre, publishers of
Voices magazine**

The newsletter preparation and mail-out have become a massive undertaking for our office. We presently have a mail-out of over 700 people and the numbers continue to grow each day.

We are delighted with the widespread interest in the newsletter and we want to make sure that you are pleased with it and are still interested in receiving the newsletter monthly.

Please take a few moments to fill out the attached form if you would like to remain on the mailing list. If we don't hear from you before the next newsletter mail-out (July) we'll take you off the mailing list until you let us know otherwise.

Call me if you have any questions and thanks for your time.

Cherie Layne

**Adult Literacy Contact Centre
622 - 510 W. Hastings St.
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1L8 684-0624**

I would like to remain on the newsletter mailing list

Name:

Title:

Address: Postal Code:

Telephone:

Please check one of the following:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☐ College | ☐ Private | ☐ Community Member |
| ☐ School District | ☐ Non-Profit | ☐ Library |
| ☐ Volunteer | ☐ Corrections | ☐ Social Agency |
| ☐ Learner | ☐ Immigrant Services | ☐ Other (Specify) |